

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

# **MAYOR JEFF WRIGHT**

#### **MINUTES**

#### **NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING**

April 28, 2009

Mayor Wright called the meeting to order at 6:47 PM in the Council Chambers of the Newington Town Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Councilors Present

Councilor Banach

Councilor Boni

Councilor Bottalico

Councilor Bowen

Councilor Cohen

Councilor Nasinnyk

Mayor Wright

**Councilors Absent** 

Councilor Lenares

Councilor Nagel

Staff Present

Lori Verreault, Executive Assistant

Ed Meehan, Town Planner

## **PRESENTATION**

Mayor Wright indicated that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow residents to speak regarding the Small Cities grant application submission.

Town Planner Ed Meehan presented an overview of the Small Cities grant purpose and application process.

- The grant funds will be used to assist the Senior and Disabled Center and the Newington Housing Authority in making improvements at the property known as New Meadow.
- This public hearing was advertised in the Hartford Courant on April 7, 2009 and April 21, 2009 as required by DECD Small Cities regulations.
- Newington has been a Small Cities community since 1993, and has completed several successful projects such as:
  - Southfield Apartments code improvements 1998 (\$100,000 grant)
  - o Southfield Children's Center improvements 1999 (\$175,000 grant)
  - Seymour Park neighborhood improvements, including park, streetscape and drainage improvements - 1996 and 1998 (\$455,000 total grant)
  - Senior and Disabled Center code improvements 2001 (\$500,000 grant)

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- Several housing rehab grants of about \$300,000 each since 1993 which have been used to improve seventy-three homes. Paybacks from the loans have been applied to housing rehab funding to assist other eligible homes.
- The Town is required to follow certain criteria for the Small Cities application per HUD national guidelines as follows:
  - The funding must benefit low or moderate income persons
  - The funds must be aimed at eliminating slums and/or blight or to meet an urgent community need
- The funds being applied for will aid senior housing for the Newington Housing Authority and the Senior and Disabled Center
- The Town is proposing an infrastructure project and public infrastructure improvements
- The recommendation is that the Council authorize the Town Manager to apply for \$500,000, which will be used for the following:
  - o Construct seventy parking spaces at the south end of the property known as New Meadow, including improvements such as grading, drainage, striping and proper lighting.
  - Work with the Newington Housing Authority to widen Mill Street Extension in order to provide access to the New Samaritan site, which will provide a safer traffic way to and from the site.
  - Repair and replace sidewalks, drainage, lighting, and address sanitary sewer laterals, minor landscaping improvements and dumpster enclosures in the existing senior housing in the area.
- The grant application is due to the DECD by May 29, 2009

## PUBLIC COMMENT - (none)

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no remarks from the public Mayor Wright closed the Public Hearing at 6:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Jaime Trevethan Clerk of the Council